



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:
FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 14, 1859.

The debate in the Senate upon the Pacific Railroad bill, has turned aside from its main object to the incidental question raised on a previous day, respecting the contingent causes and probabilities of a dissolution of the Union; Mr. Iverson and Mr. Houston being the principal speakers on that point! Mr. Douglas has made a speech in favor of the Road. On a previous day, Mr. Iverson had moved to recommit the bill to the select committee with instructions to report a bill providing for both a Northern and Southern route. This proposition Mr. Doolittle moved to amend by inserting an additional provision in favor of the central route, which amendment was adopted—yeas 35, nays 14.

In the House of Representatives, in Committee of the Whole, speeches continue to be made on the Monroe doctrine, Central America, Slavery, Filibustering, Americanizing Central America, &c.—the speakers being Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Giddings, Mr. Bowie, and others. And thus we go—and thus the time is wasted!

A letter from Washington, says:—"Mr. Mason's bill from the Committee on Foreign Relations, authorizing the President to employ the land and naval forces for the redress of grievances of American citizens in Mexico, Central America, and South America, is likely to provoke animated discussion, as the introduction of a new element of Executive power, which the constitution never contemplated, and one that divests Congress of the authority expressly and exclusively conferred upon it of making war."

The Lacrosse and Milwaukee Railroad, formerly much puffed, has blown up, and is now declared to be a swindle, and on the 15th instant, the trustees of the third mortgage bond holders will proceed to take the necessary steps to take possession of the road, leaving the stockholders and the unsecured bondholders without any vestige of security for their property.

The statements from Washington continue to be that the "Pension Bill" cannot pass the Senate; and that most of its friends in the House admit that it ought, at least, to be much modified. In addition to the enormous expense to be incurred, an examination of its details by the Baltimore American shows that some of its provisions are very unequal.

The Opposition in Virginia, in many of the counties, are holding meetings, and appointing delegates to the Whig Convention, to be held in Richmond, in February. It is probable that all the counties will be represented, and that the Whig banner will again be unfurled, with firm and gallant men as the standard bearers.

The Washington States thinks that the action of the House of Representatives, in passing Mr. Ritchie's amendment for a vote of thanks to Com. Paulding, for his breaking up Walker's Filibuster expedition, though the whole subject was finally laid on the table, was a most distinct and emphatic approbation of Com. P.'s conduct.

A committee of Congress, it is said, is in favor of removing the desks in the Congressional chambers, in belief that it would promote the despatch of business. Now the chambers are a kind of a lounging place for members, who are either engaged in writing private letters, franking public documents, or inditing sonnets for albums.

Messrs. Robert J. Walker and Frederick P. Stanton have published a letter in the National Intelligencer, further exposing the frauds connected with the famous Leecompton Constitution in Kansas.

The January number of the Southern Planter is published. We believe the Planter is without doubt the best agricultural periodical for southern farmers, published in the United States.

It is reported that the French Government has resolved upon sending a Consul General to Canada, Mr. Blancheton having been selected for the office.

The French papers seem to have commented with greater severity than the English journals upon President Buchanan's message.

On the 14th of April next, a special election will be held in Virginia for a Judge of the Court of Appeals, vice Judge Samuels, deceased.

Piccolomini is soon to appear in Baltimore, and will, probably, also, visit Washington.

It is stated that for a number of years the Philadelphians have not enjoyed such fine skating on the Schuylkill, as on Tuesday.

Everything appears to be as quiet as usual in Chili and Peru. The latter was still blockading the port of Guayaquil.

The President and Directors of the Bank of Berkeley have declared a dividend of 34 percent for the last six months.

The Baltimore Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, will assemble early in March, at Lewisburg, Virginia.

First Lieutenant Orren Chapman, of the 1st Dragoons, U. S. Army, died at St. Louis, Mo., on the 6th inst.

Charles Lever, the distinguished novelist, has been appointed her Majesty's vice-consul at Spezia.

Mr. Henry A. Peyton, in behalf of a large number of the Democratic friends of Mr. Roger A. Pryor, has presented the latter gentleman with a handsome service of plate.—Mr. Pryor sends a letter of thanks in reply, conceived and written in good taste, in which he says—

"When I first ventured to take part in the discussion of public affairs, I proposed to myself no higher object of ambition than to be faithful to the principles of the Virginia Democracy, and in the end to receive the assurance of their approbation. During ten years of association with the press I have been obliged to avow an opinion on a multitude of original issues, and to determine my relations with various interests in the party, under circumstances of peculiar difficulty and embarrassment. If I have not been altogether unequal to the responsibility of this position, the praise is due to the infallibility of the principles which directed my course, and the friends who supplied my deficiencies, rather than to my own prudence and sagacity. This protestation is not offered in the indulgence of an affected humility, but is prompted by a grateful recollection of the counsel and sympathy which were never denied me in my necessities.

The assurance conveyed in your flattering letter, and significantly implied in this tribute of regard from the Virginia Democracy, realizes the only aspiration I ever entertained of political fortune, by giving me a guarantee of the personal esteem and political confidence of my countrymen in the State-rights Democracy. I would never have separated from their association if a residence in the State had been compatible with claims of an indispensable obligation. I still own allegiance to Virginia, and my strongest desire is again to be a citizen of the old Commonwealth in fact, as I am now in feeling."

It is a singular fact, and as honorable as it is unexpected, that the State of South Carolina has spoken out against the African slave trade with an emphasis that has marked the expression of opinion in no other Southern State. Her press, so far as we have seen, without a solitary exception, have protested with the greatest energy and warmth against the infringement of the law, and the introduction of Africans into their State.

The President, in reply to a resolution of the House of Representatives, states that the slave trader has violated the laws by landing a number of Africans in Georgia, and that efforts have been made, and are still being made, to bring the offenders to justice, but that it is inexpedient at present to transmit the instructions given to the United States authorities in the premises.

Mr. John Slidell replies to Mr. Stephen A. Douglas about their personal quarrel and personal charges; but the public now take no interest in the matter, and these Senators had better retire from the field of newspaper warfare.

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.
The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company was held yesterday morning. The revenue of the road for the month of December was reported as follows:

Main Stem.	
From Passengers.....	\$18,425.61
" Freight.....	7,832.34
" Express.....	7,015.16
" Tonnage.....	215,125.25—278,399.39
Washington Branch.	
From Passengers.....	\$26,854.82
" Freight.....	1,000.00
" Express.....	1,350.00
" Tonnage.....	6,411.44—35,616.26
Annapolis Branch.	
From Passengers.....	\$3,200.56
" Freight.....	862.75
" Tonnage.....	18,722.05—22,845.36

The above, compared with December, 1857, shows a decrease now of \$42,200.44 on the main stem and of \$1,987.58 on the Washington branch, while on the Northwestern Virginia road there is an increase of \$1,707.01, leaving an aggregate decrease of \$42,398.01. The financial year of the company commenced with October. The receipts of the first quarter of the present year compare with those of the previous year as follows:

	1857.	1858.
October.....	\$392,503.02	\$396,141.85
November.....	333,159.22	361,443.38
December.....	336,261.01	379,294.22

Decrease present year, \$27,371.69.

The most important matter coming before the Board at its meeting yesterday had reference to the charges of discrimination by the Company against the trade of the city in the Annual Report of the Corn and Flour Exchange, which appeared to excite considerable feeling among the Directors. The attention of the Board was called to the subject by Mr. Thompson, and the President (Mr. Garrett) made a long explanation, denying the company had maintained in good faith its avowed and settled policy of protecting and fostering the trade of Baltimore.—*Balt. American.*

Americans in France.
Americans and American inventions make quite a figure in France. Several American inventions are manufactured on a large scale in France. Of these the most important are McCormick's and Manny's Reapers, the Volcanized Indian Rubber of Goodyear, (which has acquired an immense extension, and employs daily several thousand men,) the Sewing Machines of Singer, and Grover, Baker & Co., and of Wheeler & Wilson, Tucker's Artificial Marble, Pitt's Threshing Machines, Chamberlain's Cork Cutter, and a variety of other inventions of bankers, there are in Paris three American houses, John Monroe & Co., Lansing, Baldwin & Co., and Green & Co. The latter, which suspended two years ago, resumed the first of January at the old place, Place St. Georges, under the title of Vanderbush, Green & Co. Kollage, Artist, is still occupied on oriental subjects in Paris. White is painting a picture for Maryland—"Washington Resigning his Commission." May has a variety of subjects on the easel. Cranch has gone to Italy. Fagnani, the sculptor, late of New York, has fixed himself permanently on the Champs Elysees, and is engaged on busts, Thompson, the photographer, the Rothschild family, and continues on the Boulevard des Capucines. An American daguerreotypist has lately established himself in the Rue du Faubourg Poissonniere.

From Fraser River.
A good deal of mining was being carried on upon the banks of Fraser river, and from \$3 to \$6 to the hand per day was being taken out. The weather was inclement, and was severely felt by the miners. Provisions were scarce and very dear.

On the 4th of December, Governor Douglass issued a proclamation authorizing the levying of contributions on goods imported into the colony of British Columbia. Merchandise generally is charged 10 per centum on its value.

Victoria is a free port, and no duties are charged when goods are entered for Vancouver Island, Victoria, however, for the present, is the port of entry for British Columbia.

The spirits of the people in Victoria seem to be rising very rapidly, and real estate is said to be mounting in value with them.

News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the times."

The Seventh Annual Session of the United States Agricultural Society commenced at the Smithsonian Institution on Wednesday morning. There was a very respectable attendance of gentlemen coming from twenty-one States and two Territories embracing delegations from prominent State and county societies.

The case of Ross Winans, against the New York and Erie Railroad Company for a patent covering the eight-wheeled-cars, which was tried two years ago before Judge N. K. Hall, in the Circuit Court of the United States, at a term held at Canandaigua, in which a judgment was rendered against Winans by a jury under the ruling of the Court and then appealed by him, was on Monday, the 10th instant, decided against Winans in the Supreme Court of the United States. That highest judicial tribunal affirmed the judgment of the Circuit Court. This ends one of the most important patent cases that was ever tried in this country, involving as it did, in its issue, millions of dollars, and affecting directly every Railroad Company in the United States.

Mr. Lloyd, the publisher of a book on De Soto, is before Congress, asking that he be allowed to sell 10,000 copies at \$1.50 per copy, to be distributed among the various State libraries of the nation. It does not seem to occur to Mr. Lloyd, that if the State libraries should buy it for themselves, and not put themselves on a level with paupers, by asking a gratuity of \$1.50 from Congress. This is a small business for State libraries, though a profitable one for the publisher.

The January term of the London County Court was commenced on Tuesday. The trial of Mr. Joel Osburn, charged with maltreating his servant, a negro man, and there by causing his death, was the first case on docket. C. B. Telles, esq., for the prosecution, and R. Y. Conrad, esq., of Winchester, and Henry Heaton, esq., for the defence. Considerable interest is manifested in this case.

A private letter from Paris states that a French company, organized at the wish of the Emperor, are about to purchase the Collins steamers, to be placed, with others, as a regular line of packets between France and New York. The French government having agreed to pay to the company a yearly sum of 15,000,000 francs for carrying the mails.

The lands of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec are said to be exceedingly fertile producing sugar, coffee, rice, tobacco, maize, oranges, lemons, bananas, and almost every other tropical fruit and vegetable, in advance, and only await the arrival of a new race of men and a new order of things.—Certainly! "Manifest Destiny!"

A lump of gold weighing forty-five ounces, and worth \$75, was taken out on Sunday, 15th December, from Meacham & Co.'s claim, in Illinois Canon, just above Pikes Flat, Sierra Canon, California. It was found, according to a Maysville paper, by Mr. James Harris, of Baltimore, who had not been over a week in the country.

We observe that Wm. M. Semple, esq., of the Lynchburg Virginian is a candidate for Clerk of the Hastings Court of that city. A more honorable man does not tread the soil of Virginia. He adds to this, every qualification necessary for the position to which he aspires.

The public has lately heard much about the adulteration of various kinds of food, and yet is not aware that a large proportion of the eggs now being eaten in London, are what is called "pickled eggs." This "pickling" is done during the summer, while eggs are at a low price, by mixing lime and water in casks and filling the casks with eggs, permitting them to lie for six months in this hot lime mixture, thus destroying all the natural flavor and nutritive power of the eggs, rendering them insipid to the taste and impregnated with a strong decoction of lime, which is injurious to the stomach.

A party of men infuriated by liquor and bad passions, says the Memphis Avalanche, made a descent upon two houses of ill-fame in the southern suburbs of the city on Friday night last, kept respectively by Margaret Hayden and her sister, Bridget Hayden. In both instances they made complete wrecks of the premises, destroying the furniture and assaulting the occupants. Sixteen of the party were arrested on the ground by the police, while several of the rioters escaped.

The Wytheville Telegraph says the jailer of that county has a shanghai hen which layed one day in December last, three large eggs—one of which contained two yokes. This hen has been laying two eggs regularly a day for the last two months, and appears to be almost equal to Wyman's mysterious egg bag!

The editor of the Martinsburg Gazette has just completed a census of that town, showing it to contain a population of 3,102 souls, including 212 slaves and 88 free colored persons. It also contains 553 houses and \$700,000 worth of taxable property, exclusive of \$52,000 worth of church property.

A little daughter, of a German named Frederick Wesner, was burnt to death at St. Louis on Sunday last. It is alleged that he had quarrelled with his wife, and during her temporary absence from the house lit a pile of shavings and put the child upon it, going out immediately after. (2)

It appears from the report of the inspector, that during December, there were exported from Hampton Roads 117,352 bushels, of oysters; from the Rappahannock river 68,650 bushels, and from York river 45,400 bushels. This is, however, but a small portion of the oyster trade of Virginia.

James M. Matthews, esq., of Tappanhook, designs publishing as soon as practicable, an additional volume to his "Digest of the Laws of Virginia." It will be devoted entirely to the criminal law of the Commonwealth.

George W. Hammond, esq., until recently a citizen of Winchester, died on Friday last, after an illness of several months, of a disease of the breast, at his new residence in Baltimore.

On Monday morning a boiler in the basement of Joseph Whitaker's lard oil and bristle establishment, on Broadway, in Cincinnati, exploded with great force, severely injuring several of the hands.

Jenny Lind, Cravelli, Artot, and Frezzolini are all going together at a charitable concert at the Crystal Palace in Paris. Several thousand performers will take part in this monster concert.

The St. Louis Democrat states that the slaves of Missouri are rapidly finding purchasers, who take them out of the State, and leave in their stead thousands of dollars.

Grace Greenwood (Mrs. Sarah Lippincott) is lecturing upon "The Life and Character of Joan of Arc." This is a new field of effort for her.

Late California News.

The exports of gold from San Francisco for the past year amount to \$17,783,998, against \$19,340,186, in 1857. The general tenor of news from the gold fields is favorable. Notwithstanding the fact that about one-fifth of the California miners went to Fraser river during the summer, this year's export will be little, if at all less than last year's.

Late reports from the Walker's river mines, on the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada, say there are 75 miners there, making from \$5 to \$7 per day each.

There have been three slight earthquake shocks in Mariposa within the last fortnight, while none have been felt in any other portions of the State.

Late assays of quartz, said to be taken from the mines near San Francisco, produce from \$18 to \$40 per ton, or near that rate.

During the week ending 11th ult., \$8,460,000 of gold were deposited in the mint at San Francisco. The average for November, amounting to \$7,000,000 all in double eagles. Geo. Penn Johnston has been finally acquitted on the second indictment found against him for the killing of W. I. Ferguson, in a duel.

Edward Pollock, a poet, died in San Francisco on the 13th ult., in a fit of delirium tremens. He was a native of Philadelphia, and 35 years of age; a man of much poetic genius, but without faculty to get along in the world. He was the slave of strong drink. In Philadelphia he was an occasional contributor to Godey's Magazine. He leaves a widow and four children.

Mr. Wand of Sacramento, who shot his wife and then shot himself, on account of her infidelity, still lives with a strong probability of speedy recovery. Mr. Wand has published some of his wife's letters, from which it appears that she has committed other offences against his marital rights previous to this one. The offence of Mr. Melony, the paragon of Mrs. W., is not only aggravated by his high official position as State Comptroller, but also by the facts that he is an old man, the father of a large family, and the husband of a living wife.

In the United States Court a judgment has been rendered, awarding \$8000 damages to O. West for the loss of the Nicaragua Company to transport him and his wife from San Francisco to New York, according to contract, in April, 1856. There were 300 passengers on board, all of whom commenced suit some months ago, and libelled the Uncle Sam. If each one gets \$4000 damages, the total will amount to \$1,200,000 and not very much of the Uncle Sam will remain. She is now understood to be the property of C. K. Garrison.

Gov. Weller has pardoned 22 State prison convicts within the last year, and one of the pardoned persons has committed two murders since his pardon.

The Mariposa Star states that Fremont employs 500 men in his mining enterprise, Bear Valley, on his Mariposa ranch.

The markets at San Francisco were depressed and quite inactive, with heavy stocks on hand.

Snow had fallen to the depth of three feet in some parts of California.

Bees were worth \$100 per hive in California and \$125 in Oregon. Two hundred hives have lately been shipped from San Francisco to the northern coast. The demand exceeds the supply.

Church Music in New York.
The *Rival Choirs*.—The New York Correspondent of Dwight's Journal of Music, "Tribune," speaking of St. Stephen's church in 28th street, says:

"Between this church and that of St. Francis Xavier in 10th street, there exists a kind of musical rivalry. The pastor of the former, Rev. Mr. Cummings, is a man of excellent education, and during a recent visit to Europe he obtained a quantity of rare music for the use of his choir. Collett, the bass, formerly of various operatic companies, sings here, and Miss Seaside, daughter of a well known music teacher of our city, is (or was recently) the first soprano, while the other singers all possess great merit. The music sung by this choir is of a varied character. Donizetti's operas (especially his *Favorita*) are often dissected and pressed into service, and the rendition of the various morceaux would do justice to any operatic troupe."

The Church of St. Francis Xavier (famously known as the Jesuits' church) does not possess such a fine *cantabile* of singers, but there is one lady—Miss Hadley, I believe by her name—who has one of the most angelic voices it is possible to hear. There is a rich sympathetic pathos in it that I have never heard surpassed either on or off the stage, and many attend the church solely to listen to its exquisite melody. Then they have Mr. Berge as organist!

There are two or three organs in the city, but no one, for it seems scarcely possible that a single individual could produce such brilliant orchestral effects, even out of that princely instrument—the organ. Mr. Berge is, without doubt, the most effective organ-player of the florid style that we have in the city. He is also a prolific composer, writing almost all the music sung by his choir. His compositions are of the Italian school, and would soon give him an eminent reputation as a composer, did he not retain them for the exclusive use of his own church and choir. As a whole, it is difficult to decide as to whether St. Stephen's or the Jesuits' Church is entitled to the palm for superiority in music.—They are each crowded every Sunday by strangers—Protestants as well as Catholics—and the music is superior (of its style) to that to be heard in almost every church here or abroad; for few churches of Italy possess such efficient choirs or splendid organs as these two New York churches.

Breach of Promise of Marriage.
Last week a case of breach of promise of marriage was tried in the Supreme Court, Dutchess county, New York, the parties to which were Miss Sarah C. Doyle and Rev. Wm. E. Clark. They formerly boarded in the same house in Espous, Ulster county.

The plaintiff, Miss Doyle, testified that during the month of February, 1857, many attentions were shown her by defendant, such as inviting her to ride with him to church, declaring that he could not preach if she were not there, taking her to social parties and elsewhere, giving her many "condemning kisses," and evincing other unmistakable evidences of affection, until, at last, he called her into his study, and taking her upon his lap, told her all his love and asked her to be his wife; and it was then, as alleged by her, the solemn promise was made which was to make them one for life. During the month of May, 1857, the reverend lover was transferred by the Conference from Espous to Glendon.

A correspondence was kept up between the parties for some time, when finally he wrote to Miss Doyle, requesting her to discontinue her suit, and that she should be satisfied with his love, saying all he could, and prudential motives compelled him to make the resolution. Very soon afterwards, however, he married a belle of Fishkill, and hence the suit brought by Miss Doyle. The defendant testified that no contract of marriage was ever made with the plaintiff, but admitted various attentions and "some kissing." He also produced a host of witnesses to show that Sarah had frequently stated that she would "catch the domino."

She was engaged to one David Ferri during the whole time of her alleged engagement with Clark, and that she had denied going being engaged to Clark. The impecunious character by the testimony of former lovers. The jury, after being out all night came into court and said they were unable to agree, and were discharged. They stood nine for the plaintiff and three for the defendant.

TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES.

New York, Jan. 12.—The steamer Alps brings Havre dates to the 25th. The cotton market was dull, with sales in two days of 2,000 bales. The weather at Havre was stormy, and the vessels recently cleared for the United States were detained by adverse winds.

There are no later Liverpool markets by this arrival or quotations for consols. Three million dollars were shipped from London to the continent during the week.

There is to be a meeting of the merchants and business men at the Exchange to-morrow to act upon the report of the committee of the Cape Ann and Yarmouth Telegraph.

Louisville, Jan. 11.—President Foukes has published a notice that those neglecting to surrender half their stock in the Pacific Railroad or pay a loan of fifty cents per share, shall forfeit all, unless they remit the amount to him at Marshall, Texas, forthwith.

St. Louis, Jan. 11.—By the overland California mail, San Francisco advices to the 17th ult. have been received. Four through passengers came with the mails, including James F. Curtis, chief of the San Francisco police, who reports the discovery of a large spring in the middle of the Colorado desert, yielding an abundance of water.

Both the Apaches and Comanche Indians are committing depredations at the mail stations, in consequence of which the government animals have been used to carry the mails for some distance. The Mexicans are also suspected of stealing mules from the mail stations.

The passengers over the Tehuantepec route failed to make the connection in consequence of boisterous weather in the Gulf of Tehuantepec, and the mails were put aboard the steamer Sonora by a surf boat.

New Orleans, Jan. 12.—The steamer Tennessee is below with dates from Mexico to the 6th. Gen. Echegaray pronounced Dec. 20th at Ayala and declared himself President, but the movement was not seconded at the Capital. The troops pronounced in favor of Gen. Robles on the 25th.

Robles had announced three delegates from each State to form a junta. The popular and troops abandoned Zolunga, who retired to the English legation. The junta named Gen. Miramon for President on the second ballot. The vote was 80 against 44 for Robles. The latter would remain till Miramon's arrival, who was soon expected from Guadalajara with a thousand cavalry.

Vera Cruz dates to the 9th state that the Juarez government was firm and that the Liberals had taken Jalapa, Cordoba, and were attacking Orizaba.

Washington, Jan. 12.—Gen. Jerez, having by the resignation of Irissari, resigned his seat as representative here of Nicaragua, he has been recognised as such by our government.

Beverly Tucker says there is not a word of truth in the report that he intends to resign the Liverpool consulate.

Much interest is manifested here in the contest between General Norris on one side and Messrs. Reany, Neale & Co. on the other, for the contract for the machinery of the ship of war number 2, building at Philadelphia. It appears that three several bidders have considered the subject, which is now under consideration of the Navy Department.

The consular relief, at New York, has been ordered to be fitted out to carry stores to the Home and Pacific squadrons, and to proceed to Aspinwall in the course of ten days.

Louisville, Jan. 11.—Donald Nicholson, the alleged forger, whom the New York police have been pursuing, will be taken from here to Illinois to-morrow, on a requisition from the Governor, to answer the charges brought against him by parties in that State.

St. Catharines, C.W., Jan. 11.—A block of buildings occupied by telegraph, express, and insurance companies, as offices, and also by the Masonic Lodge as a place of meeting, was destroyed by fire last night.

Cincinnati, Jan. 11.—A destructive fire occurred last night, at the corner of Lake and Jefferson streets. Almost the entire block was destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$40,000, on which there is an insurance of \$25,000.

St. Louis, Jan. 11.—The Chamber of Commerce to-day appointed a committee to memorialize Congress to establish an Assay Office in this city.

Boston, Jan. 11.—James A. Abbott, a well known lawyer of this city, this morning fell over the banisters, from the third story of the Codrington House, and was instantly killed.

Portland, Me., Jan. 11.—The screw steamer North America, from Liverpool, 224 ult., via Halifax, arrived this afternoon.

Frozen Hydrants and Gas Meters.
IMPORTANT TO HOUSEKEEPERS.—One of the most inconvenient effects to housekeepers during very cold weather is the freezing of the hydrants and gas meters, depriving the family of the usual supply of water and light for a time. On this subject the Philadelphia Ledger remarks:

"The most speedy remedy for the frozen hydrant is to take the top off and pour hot water down the pipe, which, in a few minutes, will cause the water to flow again. As a measure of prevention the hydrant should be wrapped with straw, carpet or woolen cloth, on the outside, from the spout down to the ground, which will generally keep it running open during the coldest weather. Numbers of gas meters, in open cellars, although covered with jackets supplied by the gas works, are found to have the water frozen, and no light can be obtained. These jackets are little or no protection on such cold nights as Sunday and Monday last. The best policy for housekeepers is to give notice at once to the gas office, and have the meter filled with alcohol, which will prevent further trouble, as alcohol will not freeze in any weather experienced in this latitude. Gas meters can be thawed by pouring hot water over the meters and service-pipe and covering them with cloths. In winter, the application of the hydrant to gas meters. Mr. Brown, engineer of the Philadelphia gas works, says:

"The best method of applying it is to cover the meter and the pipe that comes in through the front wall with a piece of cloth, (the common linen householders use very well,) and to pour the hot water upon the cloth until it is thoroughly soaked. The cloth serves to retain the hot liquid, and thus, in a short time the coating of frost within the pipe and meter is thawed, leaving all clear for the flow of gas. In many cases the trouble arising from the freezing of water can be entirely avoided by the exercise of proper care in closing the cellar doors and windows, so as to exclude the cold draught of air, especially in the vicinity of the meter."

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Prosecution of Mr. Denale.

The investigation of the charge against Mr. George E. Denale, was concluded on Wednesday evening last, and resulted in his commitment for further examination before the County Court on the fourth Monday in this month. Mr. D. was admitted to bail in the sum of \$3,000, and has returned to his home in Rockingham. The great interest felt in regard to the matter induces us to present the facts of the case more at length.—In doing so we shall endeavor to state fairly what is alleged against Mr. Denale, and also the view taken of the transactions in question by the Counsel engaged in his defence.

It seems that on the 16th day of November last, Mr. Denale came to Staunton, in company with Mr. E. A. Shands, for the purpose of arranging some matters of importance with the Valley Bank. Mr. Shands had been to Staunton on that day attending to business of his own, and upon his way back met Mr. Denale at Mount Sidney, who stated his desire to consolidate his indebtedness to the Bank and solicited Shands to return with him to Staunton. Mr. Shands complied with his request, and on that night a conference was held at Mr. Denale's room at the Hotel, between Messrs. Denale and Shands, and Mr. Taylor,